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| AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Attorney Docket No. | LIFE-040/FS-149 |
| | Confirmation No. | 8555 |
| | First Named Inventor | OUYANG, TIANMEI |
| | Application Number | 09/988,494 |
| | Filing Date | November 20, 2001 |
| | Group Art Unit | 1651 |
| | Examiner Name | DAVIS, RUTH A. |
| | Title: | "STABILIZED TETRAZOLIUM PHENAZINE REAGENT COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR USING THE SAME" |

OFFICIAL

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the final Office Action dated October 17, 2003, for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before January 20, 2003 (January 17 and 18 being weekend days, and January 19 being a Federal holiday). As such, this response is timely filed.

In view of the remarks set forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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